

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WARSAW 02591 291256Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4654

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, US, CZ, PL

SUBJECT: VE CELEBRATIONS: CZECH ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF US ROLE IN 1945
LIBERATION

REF: STATE 57493, BELGRADE 2087

1. LAST WEEK THE CZECH MILITARY ATTACHE INVITED ALL OF HIS COLLEAGUES ACCREDITED IN WARSAW TO A FILM SHOWING AND COCKTAIL PARTY ON APRIL 25 "ON THE OCCASION OF THE LIBERATION OF THE CZECHOSLOVAKIAN SOCIALIST REPUBLIC BY THE RED ARMY". IN SUPPORT OF THE DEPARTMENTS INSTRUCTIONS TO PRAGUE CONTAINED IN PARA. 3 OF REFTEL, WE SOUGHT TO OBTAIN ASSURANCES FROM THE CZECH ATTACHE THAT IN ANY REMARKS MADE AT THE RECEPTION THE ROLE OF THE U.S. ARMY IN THE LIBERATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA WOULD BE NOTED. SINCE THE CZECH ATTACHE FAILED TO GIVE SUCH ASSURANCES, OUR ATTACHES DID NOT ATTEND THE RECEPTION, HAVING FIRST
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PAGE 02 WARSAW 02591 291256Z

INFORMED THEIR NATO COLLEAGUES AND THE FOREIGN LIAISON OFFICE

OF THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE OF THEIR INTENTION AND REASON.

2. THE CANADIAN MILITARY ATTACHE HAS INFORMED US THAT AT THE RECEPTION THE CZECH ATTACHE MADE A BRIEF SPEECH IN WHICH HE EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR THE GREAT ROLE PLAYED BY THE SOVIET ARMY IN THE LIBERATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND THEN NOTED THAT UNITS OF THE POLISH 2ND ARMY, THE ROMANINA ARMY, AND THE U.S. 2ND ARMORED CORPS ALSO TOOK PART. LATER THE CZECH ATTACHE APPROACHED THE CANADIAN ATTACHE AND SAID HE WAS SORRY THAT HIS AMERICAN COLLEAGUES WERE NOT THERE AND COULD NOT UNDERSTAND WHY THEY HAD NOT COME.

3. I, THE MILITARY ATTACHES, AND OTHER EMBASSY OFFICERS HAVE NOW RECEIVED INVITATIONS FROM THE CZECH AMBASSADOR TO ATTEND A RECEPTION ON MAY 7 "ON THE OCCASION OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF THE CZECHOSLOVAKIAN SOCIALIST REPUBLIC BY THE SOVIET ARMY".

4. MY INCLINATION IS TO CALL UPON THE CZECH AMBASSADOR AND POINT OUT TO HIM THAT, SINCE THE WORDING OF HIS INVITATION IS HISTORICALLY INCOMPLETE, UNLESS HE GIVES ME ASSURANCES THAT HE WILL MAKE SOME REMARKS AT HIS RECEPTION IN WHICH HE ACKNOWLEDGES THE AMERICAN ROLE IN THE LIBERATION OF HIS COUNTRY, I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND OR SEND ANY OF MY STAFF.

DAVIES

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